



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 25 2008

OFFICE OF  
ENFORCEMENT AND  
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator  
Northeast Region  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Ms. Kurkul:

In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's draft supplemental environmental impact statement (EIS) for Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish (MSB) Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

The two purposes of Amendment 10 of the MSB FMP are to: 1) develop a rebuilding program that allows the butterfish stock to rebuild in the shortest amount of time possible (but not to exceed ten years) and permanently protects the long-term health and stability of the rebuilt stock; and 2) generally minimize bycatch and the fishing mortality of unavoidable bycatch, to the extent practicable, in the squid, Atlantic Mackerel, and butterfish fisheries. Based on our review of the draft supplemental EIS, we have no objections to the proposed action; thus, we are rating the document LO - Lack of Objections.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this draft supplemental EIS. The staff contact for this review is Aimee Hessert ([hessert.aimee@epa.gov](mailto:hessert.aimee@epa.gov); 202-564-0993).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Susan E Bromm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan E. Bromm  
Acting Director  
Office of Federal Activities